

SENATE RESOLUTION 243

By Stanley

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Thomas Ostric for winning the “Yes I Can” Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those aspiring young artists who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves and brought honor to this State; and

WHEREAS, it is all the more inspiring when those celebrated artists shine despite the challenges of having disabilities; and

WHEREAS, twelve-year-old middle school student Thomas Ostric of Germantown is one such exceptional young man who recently earned the Council for Exceptional Children’s “Yes I Can” Award for his acting talents; and

WHEREAS, the Council for Exceptional Children is the leading association for special educators who work to improve the educational success of students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the “Yes I Can” Award is bestowed upon only twenty-eight students each year and recognizes a student’s achievement despite a disability in nine categories: academics, arts, athletics, community service, employment, extracurricular activities, independent living skills, self advocacy, and technology; Thomas will receive this high honor in April of 2008; and

WHEREAS, boasting an amazing I.Q. above 150, Mr. Ostric is an exceptional student at Houston Middle School, where he earns all A’s and B’s and has won more than twenty awards for his accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Ostric is a resilient and determined young man who does not allow his disabilities to hinder his ability to be successful in areas that challenge him; he joined the drama club and auditioned for the school play despite suffering from numerous disabilities, including Tourette syndrome; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ostric was awarded a large speaking part and delivered an extraordinary performance in the play; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Ostric has fulfilled his strong desire to learn and be active in the school community by making friends and participating in extracurricular activities, his accomplishment is evinced by the high regard in which he is held by his teachers and fellow students; and

WHEREAS, Thomas's display of aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for his future success, and his noteworthy achievements are a tremendous source of pride for his family, school, and community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ostric's artistic and scholastic brilliance and his dedication to personal excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby congratulate Thomas Ostric on winning the coveted "Yes I Can" Award, salute him for his outstanding accomplishments, perseverance, and hard work, and extend to him our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.